(c) A panel consisting two names has been recommended by the PESB.

(d) to (h) The qualifications, experience, job descriptions and responsibilities for the said post were finalised by the PESB after obtaining requisite information from ONGC and Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas. Having considered suitability of the candidates interviewed for the above post, the recommendation of PESB has been received by the Government and is being processed for approval of the competent authority.

Renovation and re-modelling of retail petrol and diesel outlets

2418. SHRI K.C. KONDAIAH: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Hindustan Petroleum and other Oil Companies have taken up renovation and re-modelling of retail petrol and diesel outlets in the country;

(b) if so, how many retail outlets have, so far, been renovated and re-modelled in Karnataka;

(c) how many retail outlets in Karnataka are under different stages of completion;

(d) the amount spent, so far, for the above purpose in Karnataka; and

(e) whether it was necessary to spend huge amount for renovation and re-modelling since petrol and diesel are essential commodities?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI SANTOSH GANGWAR): (a) to (e) In order to provide better customer service, the four Public Sector Oil Marketing Companies *viz.* Indian Oil Corporation Ltd., Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Ltd., Bharat Petroleum Corporation Ltd. and IBP Company Ltd. have renovated/ re-modelled 141 retail outlets and have spent about Rs. 44 crores in the State of Karnataka. 60 more retail outlets are at different stages

of renovation re-modelling in the state.

LPG connections in Haldwani, Bajpur, Ranikhet and Ramnagar

2419. SHRI SURYABHAN PATIL VAHADANE: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of LPG connections with each agency in Haldwani, Bajpur, Ranikhet and Ramnagar in Uttar Pradesh, alongwith the number of persons on the waiting list as on the 30th June, 2000;

(b) by when the wait-listed persons in those are likely to be provided LPG connections; and

(c) the other places in hill districts of Kumaun Region in U.P., where LPG facilities are available and by when the remaining areas are likely to be provided with such facilities?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI SANTOSH GANGWAR): (a) The details of LPG connections in Haldwani, Bajpur, Ranikhet and Ramnagar in Uttar Pradesh are given in the statement. (*See* below)

(b) Government have a plan to release 1 crore LPG (domestic) connections during the year 2000 to clear the waiting list registered with the LPG distributors of Public Sector Oil Companies as on 1.12.1999.

(c) At present Indian Oil Corporation Limited (IOC) have LPG distributorships at Almora, Bagheswar, Champawat, Nainital, Pitthoragarh and Udhamsingh Nagar, while Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited (BPC) have LPG distributorships at Rudrapur and Haldwani in Kumaun region in Uttar Pradesh. New LPG distributorships are taken up under marketing plan in case, they are found viable.